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PENNSYLVANIA

DEFENSE COUNCIL NEWS

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'Teen-Age' Centers New SCD Objective

Check Supplies of Children's Clothing, Shoes

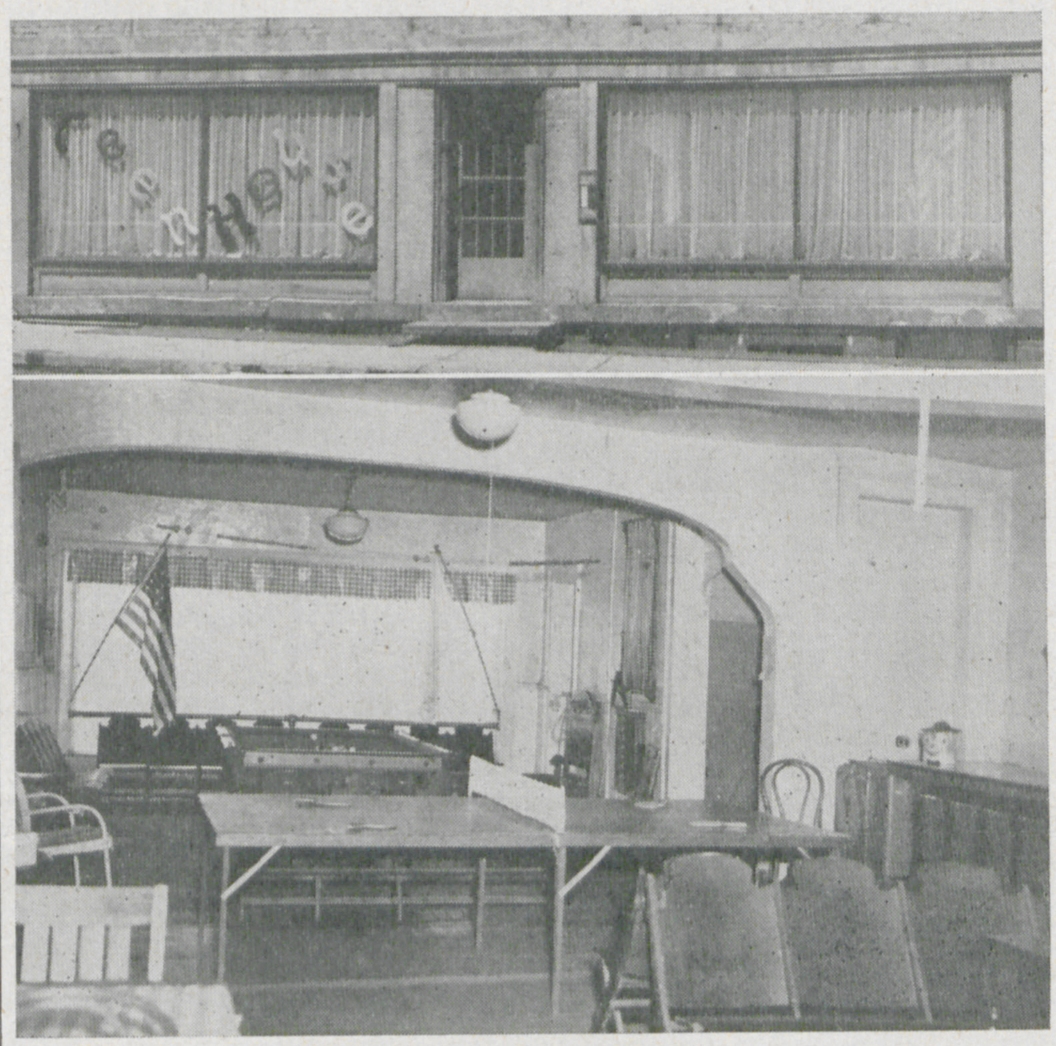
Forty-seven counties reported through their Consumer Interests Chairmen on adequacy of children's clothing and shoes, and refrigerator repair service, according to the report prepared early in the summer by Mrs. Conway Zirkle, Chairman advisory Committee on Consumer Interests of the State Council of Defense. The information was gathered for the Office of Civilian Requirements of the War Production Board to help them plan future production and distribution of scarce Consumer goods. It is hoped that counties showing the greatest scarcities will receive earliest relief.

That 22 counties reported an adequate supply of children's clothing and shoes and 25 counties a scarcity, indicates attention is needed to the problems of distribution. It cannot be assumed that every scarcity is due to a war caused shortage of a commodity.

A second survey through the county Consumer Chairmen is being conducted at the present time on adequacy of screening, metal garbage pails, canning equipment, locks, latches and bolts, and the extent of disturbance of employment on cancellation of war contracts. To date 31 county Consumer Chairmen have sent in the desired information.

Mr. Virgil Rader, Regional Representative of the Office of Civilian Requirements, WPB, is gratified by the results of these informal surveys. He says that no other means are available to him except the OCD County Consumer Chairmen to get quick and timely information, especially from the Northern counties.

Mrs. Worthington Scranton, State Commander of War Services, wishes to commend the Consumer Chairmen who are giving such faithful attention to the Consumer needs of the State. Many of these chairmen have worked consistently since before Pearl Harbor, carrying out the details of one of the fundamental War Service programs.



TOWANDA TEEN HOUSE

Above are pictures of the Teen House which has been in operation in Towanda for some time. In the top photograph is shown the exterior of the Teen House. The bottom photograph is an interior view of the house.

Vote Canvass Success; 550,000 GI's Registered

Pennsylvania's State Council of Defense conducted the greatest non-partisan canvass for names and addresses of voters ever known in Pennsylvania under provision of the Military Ballot Information Act of the recent Special Session of the General Assembly and an aggregate of 550,000 names of men and women who are Pennsylvanians now in the Armed Forces and the War Services was available to Election Boards. The purpose of this canvass was to pave the way for the men and women to receive ballots from County Boards. It attracted national attention.

Something like one million homes and apartments were visited by over 150,000 men and women volunteers from Civilian Defense Councils with helpers representing Veterans' organizations, Womens Clubs, political groups and others. When the canvass ended there were over 548,000 names listed, the remainder came in after Military Ballot Day on which the Election Boards sat in accord with the directions of the Governor and under authority of the General Assembly.

Allegheny and Philadelphia Counties turned in tens of thousands of names, the honors for the largest number resting with Allegheny.

Judge Joseph A. Richardson, of the Allegheny County Court, was the directing genius of the canvass in that county. Plans for it were undertaken as soon as the Act of Assembly was

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Harry Hirsch Will Direct New Program

State-Wide movement to Secure places of recreation for young people gains momentum

The State Council of Defense has announced establishment in Pennsylvania of a special 'teen-age' program which is planned to meet the peculiar needs of the 'teen-age' people in the war period.

"Expressed on all sides has been the desire of these young people for a place in their towns to which boys and girls together may go, and under right and congenial influences, engage in social recreation", said Dr. Ralph Cooper Hutchison, Executive Director of the State Council of Defense. "A number of such centers have sprung up over the state, and there is a need for the correlation of the experiences of those already established and for the opening of others in many cities and towns."

The new program will be under the direction of the War Services Division of Civilian Defense of which Mrs. Worthington Scranton is the commander. The Director of the Teen-Age Program is Mr. Harry Hirsch, formerly representative of the State Council in Region II. Mr. Hirsch began work on July first with a preliminary survey. His office will be at the State Council of Defense Headquarters in Harrisburg, and communities interested in establishing such a program should communicate with him.

Aims of Program

The program involves organization among the 'teen-age' people of the community; when requested aid in securing of a place which may be used as a center, the designation and adaptation of the building to the purposes, necessary furniture and equipment and the provision of adult leadership and chaperonage for the social periods. War Services, where requested, will assist with funds for equipment, but the remainder of the original cost and

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Army To Take Fire Equipment

Charles E. Clark, Property Officer of the State Council of Defense, has notified the War Department that forty-three pumps assigned to Pennsylvania municipalities on loan from the Federal Government for additional fire protection and all other equipment held by twenty-eight communities in Pennsylvania are available to be sent abroad for use by the Army in occupied territory.

Mr. Clark is in charge of all government loaned equipment for the Office of Civilian Defense in Pennsylvania and a few days ago completed inspection of hundreds of pieces of fire apparatus and much other equipment.

It is expected the material certified by Mr. Clark as available will be withdrawn from Pennsylvania by the Army very shortly. Mr. Clark says all equipment received by communities that has not been activated will be withdrawn by the Government.

War Salvage

Colley S. Baker, executive secretary of the Advisory Committee on Salvage, in a preliminary report to the State Council of Defense, showed the total collections by Civilian Defense salvage committees in Pennsylvania of war salvage materials from January 1 to June 30, inclusive, this year, as follows:

Waste paper—
224,746 net tons
Prepared tin cans—
8,589 gross tons
Iron and steel scrap—
149,485 gross tons
Used household fats—
8,341,258 pounds
Rags— 18,225,791 pounds

Stresses Need of Increase In Home Canning

When a spokesman for the canning industry urges home production and preservation of foods, it's time to sit up and take notice, it is pointed out by Dr. Warren B. Mack, executive secretary of the Victory Garden Committee. But that's just what the editor of *The Canner*, prominent periodical of the American canning industry, wrote in an issue of the current season. To quote his words:

"The country at large does not yet realize the food situation it faces in 1944-45.

"Last year the Government took twenty-two million cases of fruits from canners. This year it will take thirty-seven million cases . . . Last year the Government took nearly fifty-six million cases of canned vegetables from the industry. This year it requires more than eighty-six million cases. Some of the principal vegetable packs may not be as large as they were in 1943.

"With the relaxing of rationing restrictions . . . too many people have been jumping to the unwarranted conclusion that the danger of food emergencies in this country has passed once and for all. They may be right but they have little evidence on their side. Rationing is almost certain to come back before Indian summer sets in. The greater the number of victory gardens that are planted and carefully cultivated in 1944, the better canners will be able to serve their customers and the less irksome rationing will prove to the consumer."

Inconveniences of rationing, however, are not the most urgent reasons for increased canning of vegetables and fruits for home use in 1944. Pennsylvania's farms yield these products during only a few months of the year, when supplies for fresh use may be excessive during short periods. Unless these temporary surplusses are preserved, wastage will occur of foods which are needed later, and which represent much expenditure of manpower and materials. Furthermore, financial losses are sustained by farmers, who become discouraged from future production.

The Pennsylvania State Council of Defense through its War Services, and the Department of Public Instruction through its divisions of Agricultural and Homemaking Education, are cooperating in assisting Pennsylvania citizens to can the temporarily surplus products of market and Victory gardens in community canning kitchens, by lending items of equipment which are difficult for individual citizens to obtain, and by offering supervision and instruction in the use of such equipment. Interested groups of ten or more families may obtain this assistance through county supervisors of vocational agriculture, county superintendents of schools, and county and local Victory Garden Committees.

It will be too bad if Pennsylvania grown food which will be needed later is wasted through the complacency of citizens who suppose that we shall have enough without it.

Vote Canvass Odds and Ends

One of the features of the recent Military Ballot Information Canvass was the eagerness of relatives to give cards for men in the Armed Forces who are now prisoners of war. In many instances they did not know the address but they wanted to have them listed.

In a number of counties thousands of offers of names of young men and women under 21 were made to the canvassers. In Lehigh County it is estimated that something like 3000 names of persons under 21 were turned in. Of course, these could not be listed as voters.

In several counties reports have been made that persons who had refused to give information to the canvassers have since hunted up election authorities and others to furnish the data requested. In such instances, it appears, the relatives were not familiar with what was desired in spite of all the widespread publicity and the fact that newspapers had printed facsimiles of the canvassing cards very extensively. Explanations are that the relatives feared it was something in connection with the draft or might have reference to a possible poll or occupation tax. This unfamiliarity of many people with what was desired in the interest of men and women serving their country was one of the surprising phases of the canvass. A few instances have been heard of where persons went to offices of magistrates or justices of the peace and asked why they should give the information. They were promptly told to furnish what was requested on the card and nothing else.

Furnish 24,985 Dancing Partners for Service Men

In the three years of its existence, the Service Men's Center of the Harrisburg and Dauphin County Council of Defense has furnished a total of 24,985 dancing partners for 269 service men dances at military reservations in that area.

In addition, 1145 chaperones were provided by the Center and a total of 118,392 volunteer hours recorded by workers.

CDVO In Philadelphia Furnishes Sea Chests

Philadelphia CDVO has done an outstanding service in connection with Camps and Hospital Committees of the American Red Cross. 19 Sea Chests have been supplied to U. S. Navy Gunnery Crews on Merchant Marine Ships.

Mrs. E. A. Van Valkenburg, Director of CDVO of Pennsylvania State Council of Defense, suggests this as a worthy project for any interested CDVO or other group.

Local Camp and Hospital Committees of American Red Cross may be contacted or those wishing to collect games, etc., for filling such chests may send collection direct to Philadelphia CDVO, 1725 Chestnut Street, where packing is done in cooperation with Philadelphia Committee of Red Cross Camp and Hospital.

CD Credited For Role In Nurses Aide Pragram

In a recent Red Cross meeting at Scranton, Mrs. Walter Lippman the speaker of the evening, gave full credit to the part Civilian Defense has played in the Nurses Aide Program. She called attention to the emblem worn on the sleeve of the Nurses Aide uniform—a combination of the insignia of both Services which represents the fine spirit of cooperation between the two great organizations.

An announcement was made at this meeting that as a reward for outstanding service, seven Nurses Aides from the Scranton Nurses Aide Corps have been assigned to the Ashford General Hospital at White Sulphur Springs to assist with the care of returning Service Men.

Centre County Defense Heads Receive Award

For devoting at least 1,000 hours to Civilian Defense work, nine members of the Centre County Defense Council have been presented with official service bars, including:

Aaron Leitzell of Bellefonte, county commander, for 3000 hours; Walter Trainer of State College, commander of protective services and chief of wardens service, for 2000 hours; R. Y. Sigworth of State College, Dr. H. I. Sieber of Philipsburg, Dr. J. W. Claudy of Rockview, George Bohn of Lemont, R. D. Anthony of State College, Mrs. Mary Baum Mianulli of Bellefonte, and Chairman of the County Defense Council, Henry Brockerhoff of Bellefonte, for 1000 hours service each.

Presentation of the bars was made by M. T. Bunnell, personnel officer of the Council.

VOTE CANVASS

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signed by Governor Martin and it was pushed energetically. Daily reports were sent to the Offices of the State Council of Defense where they were tabulated by Arthur L. Cotton, Coordinator in charge of this work. Judge Richardson had the assistance of a live group of Allegheny Countians one of whom was one who was on the job day and night, seven days a weeek. He was David Olburn, Director of the Election Bureau of Allegheny County. Working

Judge Joseph A. Richardson

along with him with notable success were Judge Sara Saffel, Judge Walter T. Smart, Allan Reynolds, Dr. L. H. Blose, Robert C. Malcolm and Victor Nelly. "I want to say these people did a swell job and I am mighty proud of the result obtained in Allegheny County," said Judge Richardson.

The big task in Philadelphia was ably directed by Judge Harry S. McDevitt, Chairman of the Philadelphia Council of Defense. His right arm was D. Leo Doyle and Sergeant Charles Mayer gave valuable assistance in rolling up the total.

In a short time the final totals for each county will be announced together with the names of those who supervised the canvass in their respective areas.

FILL 11 CARS

Collections of waste paper in Scranton and Dunmore on June 25 amounted to 1493 tons, filling 11 freight cars which were sent on the way to processing mills immediately.

John B. McDade, Scranton CD director, reports that this brings the total tonnage collected this year to 4593 tons. T. H. Jones is salvage chairman.

Collection of Paper Mounts; Clinton Leads

Salvage Committee of Pennsylvania Councils of Defense reported collection of 54,461 tons of waste paper in June, an increase of 10,533 tons, or 24 percent, over the month of May.

Waste paper continues to be the most critical of all war salvage materials.

With June collections, Pennsylvania during the first six months of this year has collected 224,746 tons of waste paper, leaving a deficit of 75,254 tons on the State's six-month quota of 300,000 tons.

If Pennsylvania is to meet its quota of 600,000 tons for the year, it will be necessary for the Salvage Committees to collect 375,254 tons during the last six months, an average of 62,542 tons per month.

The June collections averaged 11 pounds per capita, an increase from 8.87 pounds per capita in May.

To meet the last six months' quota, it will be necessary to collect an average of 12½ pounds per capita each month, beginning with July.

Beginning with July collections, a championship pennant and citation is to be awarded each month to the county with the greatest per capita collection.

Robert L. Hulsizer, Clinton county chairman, reported the highest per capita collection of 19 pounds for June. Twenty-nine counties, with a combined population of 6,342,548, approximately two-thirds of the State, reported collections of 10 or more pounds per capita.

Army Chief Commends SCD

In a recent letter to SCD, Major H. I. Dotson, Chief of the Pre-Induction Training Branch, Army Service Forces, Third Service Command, of Baltimore, Md., writes:

"Mrs. Walter Spofford sent a report to me on Introduction to the Armed Forces meetings and Pre-Induction Programs held in 28 counties of Pennsylvania between March 15 and June 15, 1944. It is an excellent report and one I am glad to have in order to complete my reports to Headquarters, Army Service Forces, Washington, D. C.

"Receipt of the report has been acknowledged to Mrs. Spofford with an expression of appreciation for the splendid work accomplished in the field through her efforts.

"The Pennsylvania State Council of Defense has one of the best, and perhaps the most outstanding Pre-Induction training Programs in this country."

Pre-Induction Sidelights

At a recent Pre-Induction meeting in Cumberland County the Draftees listened to the talk on allotments, insurance and dependency benefits with rapt attention. There was not a sound in the fine old Court Room except the voice of the Officer addressing the group and the hum of traffic outside. The time for questions arrived and hands were raised all over the room. The questions came fast and the hours slipped by. "How can I provide for my step-child?" "How much insurance should I take out?" "What should I take to the Reception Center?" The Chairman thought the time had come to close the meeting. He raised his hand and announced that there would be time for only one more question. A young man raised his hand immediately. The Chairman nodded. The question came eagerly: "If you have any more of these meetings, can we come,"

In Montgomery County a Pre-Induction Information Service was set up at the Court House in Norristown by the County Defense Council. Cards describing the Center were sent out to each Draft Board who in turn enclosed one in each notice to the Inductee. 515 interviews were given during the first 2 months. A Center was also set up by the County Council of Defense in the Township Building in Abington and 175 interviews have been given to date.

Instead of holding Pre-Induction meetings, the Berks County Council of Defense printed and distributed to all Draft Boards in the county, copies of the leaflets contained in "Introduction to the Armed Forces." They in turn distributed them to all Inductees in their first notices to appear at the Draft Board. This booklet was given wide newspaper publicity and in addition, copies were sent to the public schools, all social agencies in the city, etc. Sufficient copies of the booklet were furnished all Draft Boards to last for the next 9 or 10 months.

Philadelphia Wardens Make Plans for Future

From no point of view would it be safe to demobilize or deactivate our protective forces," declared Judge Harry S. McDevitt, Philadelphia CD chairman, in a letter to zone wardens of that city.

Judge McDevitt urged the wardens to "take an accurate inventory of manpower and plan for the future." He asked the wardens to decide whether to "carry on your rolls those wardens who want to be the specialists and pick out their work, or limit the rolls to those inspired by patriotism, anxious to serve the community."

Col. Stahr New CD Chairman In Lancaster

Colonel J. Hale Steinman, Chairman of the Lancaster County Council of Defense from its organization, has resigned to become Consultant to the War Production Board, Printing and Publishing Division, in Washington, D. C.

Colonel Charles P. Stahr, who for years was a member of the National Guard of Pennsylvania and later an officer of the Medical Corps of the United States Army, has been appointed Chairman of the Lancaster County Council to succeed Colonel Steinman.

Dr. Ralph Cooper Hutchison, Executive Director of the State Council of Defense, has written to Colonel Steinman expressing his regrets at his retirement from Civilian Defense but praising him for undertaking the important work in the larger field at the National Capitol. At the State Council offices there has been many expressions of good wishes for Colonel Steinman in his new place. His contacts with the State Council staff have been pleasant and on many occasions he has been of much service in the way of advice as well as participating in every state-wide meeting held under auspices of the State Council.

Colonel Stahr has entered upon his duties and has made contacts with each of the Councils forming the Lancaster County Council. Incidentally, it may be stated, the Lancaster County Council was one of the first to be organized in the state, being the first purely County Council.

Decline OCD Service Awards

Dr. Ralph Cooper Hutchison, Executive Director of Civilian Defense in Pennsylvania and A. Boyd Hamilton, Depuuty Director, have received the Merit Award of the National Office of Civilian Defense for distinguished service during the war. This is the highest award within the power of the Office of Civilian Defense to confer.

While appreciating the recognition Dr. Hutchison and Mr. Hamilton have declined the awards returning them to General W. N. Haskell in Washington, D. C. This was done on the ground that service awards had been ruled out in Pennsylvania by the State Council and by the Assembly of County Chairmen; also that there were many people in Pennsylvania more deserving in the judgment of the Director and, finally, that all service awards should be reserved for the men fighting on the battle fronts of the world.

Governor Lauds CD For "Magnificent Job"

Civilian Defense organizations in souuthwestern Pennsylvania were highly commended by Governor Edward Martin for services rendered during the tornado disaster in that section, in the following letter to Dr. Ralph Cooper Hutchison, SCD Executive Director:

"Dear Doctor Hutchison:

"My sincere thanks and appreciation to the members of your great organization and yourself for the magnificent job you performed following the tornado disaster in southwestern Pennsylvania.

"My personal visit to all the stricken areas and the many reports which came to me indicate that all State disaster agencies responded instantly to the call for help.

"The coordination of the rescue and relief work, the swift assembling of workers and medical supplies and the absence of confusion and overlapping were a splendid demonstration of planning in a great emergency.

"I wish you to convey my commendation to the members of your organization who participated in any way in the disaster work."

THANK ORGANIZATIONS

The Advisory Committee on Salvage, in a report to the State Council of Defense, made grateful acknowledgement of the cooperation given by the State Chamber of Commerce, the Pennsylvania Manufacturers Association and the Pennsylvania Industrial Union Council (CIO) for "splendid cooperation in the general salvage program."

The three organizations, according to Colley S. Baker, efecutive secretary, have assisted in the promotion of the waste paper and iron and steel scrap campaigns throughouut the State.

One-Room Tioga County School To Receive Tin Can Salvage Plaque

STATE CHAMPION TIN CANNONEERS

Rural one-room Broughton School in Delmar Township, Tioga County, won the Council of Defense school tin can salvage collection title in the State by collecting an average of 6,829.8 prepared tin cans for each of its 18 enrolled pupils. The contest, which opened last Dec. 31, closed May 31. The school will be presented with the State championship plaque in September. Shown above are the school, 14 of the pupils and Jesse Robertson, the teacher.

Broughton School, Delmar Township, Tioga County, has been announced as the winner of the State schools tin can salvage contest, which closed May 31. A plaque is to be presented to the school with appropriate ceremonies in September.

Broughton School, which has an enrollment of 18 pupils, located in the mountains six miles from Wellsboro, is taught by Jesse Robertson. During the six months' contest, the school collected an average of 6,829.8 prepared tin cans per pupil.

The contest was sponsored jointly by the Advisory Committee on Salvage of the State Council of Defense and the Department of Public Instruction, and resulted in the collection of 37,092,340 prepared cans, equivalent to 4,121 tons.

Best collections were in Luzerne County, where the school children turned in 7,455,674 prepared cans. Allegheny county, with 3,108,353 cans, was second, and Berks county, with 2,218,336 cans, was third.

Permanent possession of the Pennsylvania Tin Can School Salvage flag, which was contested for each month in each county, was awarded permanently to the school in each county that collected the greatest number of prepared tin cans per pupil.

The prepared cans—those from which the labels, tops and bottoms had been removed and the cans flattened—were shipped to detinning plants in the war salvage program. The Department of Highways performed fine service in transporting the cans from the schools to the shipping points.

A similar contest to be started on Sept. 1 is soon to be announced for all of the schools of the State.

Going Up!!

1,503,039 strong and still growing—is the latest very heartening report on the total number of volunteers engaged in Civilian Defense activities in Pennsylvania.

This represents an increase of 22,953. Dr. Ralph Cooper Hutchison, SCD's Executive Director, points out. "It indicates that certainly there is no serious let down in civilian defense and the splendid job done by our organization in the recent military ballot information canvass makes us all feel proud. An excellent esprit de corps still prevails," Dr. Hutchison declared.

War Service branches showed 919,209 enrolled, including 360,140 in Salvage—an increase of 23,145, while 383,830, or a decrease of 192 are registered with the Defense Corps.

A breakdown of the Defense Corps enrollment shows 190,860 Air Raid Wardens, 63,131 Auxiliary Firemen, 58,953 Auxiliary Policemen, 34,080 Fire Guards.

Nurses' Aides rose from 15,290 to 15,463 during June.

More Can Openers

Housewives are promised relief from the current shortage of can openers in an announcement by Warren R. Roberts, Chairman of the SCD Advisory Committee on Salvage.

In response to an appeal from Roberts, WPB has revised its limitation order to increase the manufacture of the household type of can openers.

Cash for Cans

A total of $512.59 was realized from the sale of prepared tin cans collected last month in greater Johnstown to boost the net proceeds from tin can salvage work there to $3,455.

During the school year New Castle school children collected 170 tons of tin cans netting $2005.07 from a detinning company.

TEEN-AGE CENTER

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the support must be raised in the community and among the young people. It is hoped that through this program Pennsylvania will meet the needs of teen-age youth.

Encouragement and help will be extended to youth centers already established in: Philadelphia, Reading, Williamsport, Meadville, Northeast, Bloomsburg, Ambler, Pottstown, Lewisburg, Greensburg, Beaver, Jeannette, Hatboro, Bradford, Willow Grove, Birdsboro, Washington, Towanda, and Springfield township, Delaware county.

Nine other states already have, under Civilian Defense or otherwise, set up directors of youth activities of this nature. The Federal government also has an agency working on the program and at present three representatives are operating in the state, developing the movement.

"This program is designed to meet one of the outstanding emergencies that has arisen due to war conditions," declared Mrs. Scranton, "and we are very enthusiastic over the prospects of being able to do something really worth while for our youth of today."

Visits Towanda

Director Hirsch recently visited Towanda and inspected the Teen House there. He interviewed borough manager William T. Howie and Mrs. R. F. Culver, one of the committee members.

Mr. Hirsch was deeply impressed by the Towanda set-up and asked that complete plans and the entire history of the Teen Housue there be furnished him. He said that the organization, in particular, was something which could be copied by almost any city or communuity.